

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 227

To establish a locally oriented commission to assist the city of Berlin, New Hampshire, in identifying and studying its region's historical and cultural assets, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28, 1997

Mr. GREGG introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish a locally oriented commission to assist the city of Berlin, New Hampshire, in identifying and studying its region's historical and cultural assets, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Androscoggin River
5 Valley Heritage Area Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to establish a locally ori-
 3 ented commission to assist the city of Berlin, New Hamp-
 4 shire, in identifying and studying the Androscoggin River
 5 Valley’s historical and cultural assets.

6 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the
 8 Androscoggin River Valley Heritage Commission (referred
 9 to in this Act as the “Commission”), which shall consist
 10 of 10 members appointed not later than 3 months after
 11 the date of enactment of this Act, as follows:

12 (1) 1 member appointed by the Governor of
 13 New Hampshire, who shall serve as Chairperson.

14 (2) 1 member appointed by the Speaker of the
 15 House of Representatives of the State of New
 16 Hampshire.

17 (3) 1 member appointed by the President of the
 18 Senate of the State of New Hampshire.

19 (4) 2 members appointed by the Secretary of
 20 the Interior from among individuals recommended
 21 by State and local cultural or historic preservation
 22 organizations.

23 (5) 1 member, appointed by the Secretary of
 24 the Interior, who has experience in the area of his-
 25 torical projects.

1 (6) 4 members appointed by the mayor of the
2 city of Berlin, New Hampshire.

3 (b) VOTING.—The Commission shall act and advise
4 by affirmative vote of a majority of its members.

5 (c) COMPENSATION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Commis-
7 sion shall receive no pay on account of the member's
8 service on the Commission.

9 (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the
10 Commission, while away from the member's home or
11 regular place of business in the performance of serv-
12 ices for the Commission, shall be allowed travel ex-
13 penses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in
14 the same manner as persons employed intermittently
15 in Government service are allowed expenses under
16 section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

17 (d) EXEMPTION FROM CHARTER RENEWAL RE-
18 QUIREMENTS.—Section 14(b) of the Federal Advisory
19 Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the
20 Commission.

21 (e) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate
22 on submission of a report under section 4(b).

23 (f) SUPPORT.—

24 (1) STAFF AND TECHNICAL SERVICES.—The
25 Director of the National Park Service may provide

1 such staff support and technical services as are nec-
 2 essary to carry out the functions of the Commission.

3 (2) COMPLETION OF STUDY.—The Secretary of
 4 the Interior may provide the Commission such tech-
 5 nical and other assistance as is necessary to com-
 6 plete the study described in section 4.

7 (g) OPEN MEETINGS.—All meetings of the Commis-
 8 sion shall be open to the public.

9 **SEC. 4. STUDY.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
 11 completion of appointment of the members of the Commis-
 12 sion, the Commission shall complete a comprehensive
 13 study of the Androscoggin River Valley’s history and cul-
 14 ture in New Hampshire, which shall—

15 (1) include a catalog of all available historically
 16 and culturally significant sites, buildings, and areas
 17 in the region;

18 (2) examine the feasibility of any Federal or
 19 State historic recognition in the region;

20 (3) include a set of options for the city of Ber-
 21 lin, New Hampshire, to pursue with respect to herit-
 22 age-based development, including a list of available
 23 Federal, State, and private programs that would fur-
 24 ther any such efforts; and

1 (4) account for the impacts of any heritage-
2 based development on State, municipal, and private
3 property.

4 (b) REPORT.—The Commission shall provide Con-
5 gress, the Secretary of the Interior, and the State of New
6 Hampshire with a report based on the study described in
7 subsection (a).

8 **SEC. 5. NO REGULATORY AUTHORITY.**

9 Nothing in this Act provides the Commission with
10 any regulatory authority.

11 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

12 For the purpose of carrying out the functions of the
13 Commission, there is authorized to be appropriated
14 \$50,000.

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